

THE HUDSON RIVER



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FORT NEW AMSTERDAM



(NEW YORK), 1651

When you leave, please leave this book
Because it has been said
"Ever'thing comes t' him who waits
Except a loaned book."

CLARENCE C. BOLTE
14 Prospect Avenue
L. Ossining, New York

The Hudson River

The Hudson River is perennially beautiful. It never loses its charm. In every season—spring, summer, autumn and winter it makes its strong appeal through its wealth of beauty, history and romance. The

New York Central Lines

the only railroad along the river, skirt its shores from New York to Albany, bringing before the traveler's eye practically all the places of scenic beauty and historic interest.

OVL 230

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Grand Central Terminal, New York

INTRODUCTORY

It has been aptly said that there seem to be in reality four separate Hudsons—the Hudson of Beauty, the Hudson of History, the Hudson of Literature and the Hudson of Commerce. In each of these four phases this wonderful river makes its interesting appeal, and certain it is that no one from either at home or abroad who sees the Hudson can fail to be inspired by it.

One remarkable feature of the Hudson is that for 150 miles of its length it is not a true river, but a fiord. From Albany to the ocean its rock bottom, with the exception of a few islands, is



Riverside Drive and Grant's Tomb

below sea-level. The shore line at Albany is at practically the same elevation as the shore line at New York, and the tide rises at Albany two and eight-tenths feet. The Indians spoke of the river with wonder as the stream that flowed both ways.

The river is also remarkable for its great natural beauty. The distinguished German surgeon, Dr. Adolf Lorenz, while visiting on its shores in 1902, pronounced it more beautiful than the Rhine. This beauty, so famous throughout the world, is due to very ancient causes; and the person who will search beyond the surface appearances for those causes will



High Bridge

truly find, as Shakespeare says, "sermons in stones and books in the running brooks." The variety of the Hudson's scenery is due to the extraordinary range of its geological history. From its source to the sea it is an epitome of creation. It rises in the Adirondack mountains which, now towering to a height of 5,402 feet, although once much higher, lifted their heads above the great primeval flood when almost all the rest of the United States was still a wild waste of water. The famous Highlands of the Hudson, between which Hudson sailed 300 years ago, are of the same ancient Archaean rocks and were once a group of islands. The Catskills



Washington Bridge

are more modern and the Palisades still younger. The latter were once a fiery, molten mass, and their columnar shape is due to the manner in which that mass cooled off. These few facts will indicate what a store-house for fascinating research the Hudson Valley is for the person, young or old, who will study it with the mind as well as the eye.

Civilization followed Hudson's voyage into the Hudson River Valley, partly because the valley was beautiful and attractive, partly because it was fertile, partly on account of the very valuable fur trade which was the foundation of New York commerce, and partly for other rea-



The New York Central near Riverdale

sons, but very largely on account of the relation of the river to other lines of water travel. Before the white man's advent, an Indian could start from New York's Harbor, paddle up the Hudson to Fort Edward, thence up a little creek, and, making a short carry, resume his journey down Wood Creek (the Champlain Canal now connects the Hudson River and Lake Champlain by this route), and pass through Lake Champlain and the Sorel River to the St. Lawrence. Thence he could ascend to the Great Lakes, or descend to the Atlantic Ocean. Or, going up the Hudson and Mohawk, with a short carry at Rome, he could proceed down another Wood



The Palisades

Creek and by way of Oneida Lake and the Oswego River to Lake Ontario, and thence, either to the ocean or to the remotest region of Lake Superior. The same geological forces which produced this network of water connections also formed the almost level terrace along which the Indians instinctively made their great east and west trail from the Hudson to Lake Erie, and along which, at a later date, the white man built the Erie Canal. It is along this highway of Nature that the rails of the New York Central are laid, forming the great water level route between the east and the west.



Sunnyside, Home of Washington Irving

THE TRIP UP THE HUDSON

**Grand
Central
Terminal** From the moment one arrives at Grand Central Terminal preparatory to taking the train for a trip up the Hudson, there is always something to engage the interest of the traveler, not the least being the great terminal itself. Grand Central is the greatest of the world's railway terminals, covering an area of 79 acres in the heart of New York. It represents the highest achievement in terminal construction and stands a monument to American genius.

The first points worthy of remark after leaving Grand Central are St. Luke's Hospital and



Old Dutch Church, Tarrytown

the Cathedral of St. John the Divine (in course of construction) crowning Cathedral Heights, seen to the westward as the train speeds along the viaduct at about 110th Street.

At 133rd Street the Harlem River is crossed and is followed, except for a short distance, thence to Spuyten Duyvil. Two beautiful bridges span the Harlem River, connecting the northern part of Manhattan Island with the Borough of the Bronx. The first one seen on approaching from the south is High Bridge, the many arched aqueduct finished in 1848 and an important link in the original Croton water system. A short distance beyond, the train



The Tappan Zee

passes under one of the great spans of Washington Bridge, whose graceful lines are always admired.

Beyond Washington Bridge almost a mile and crowning University Heights may be seen the Hall of Fame, belonging to New York University, where are inscribed on bronze memorial tablets the names of many Americans prominent in history.

At Kingsbridge the railroad curves to the westward and in a few moments the train reaches the Hudson River at Spuyten Duyvil. About three miles down the river on the New Jersey shore can be seen Fort Lee. It was from



Anthony's Nose at Southern Gate of the Highlands

Fort Lee, that Washington, powerless to help, watched the storming and capture by the British, in November 1776, of Fort Washington on the New York side of the river almost opposite Fort Lee.

Soon after leaving Spuyten Duyvil and just beyond Mount St. Vincent Station on the right is seen the Roman Catholic Convent of Mount St. Vincent. The stone castle which now forms part of the convent was built by, and formerly the residence of Edwin Forrest, the famous actor.

Across the river stretching as far as the eye can see north and south are the Palisades, a mighty rampart of trap rock, thrown up by a



Iona Island

Palisades great upheaval in some by-gone age. The Palisades extend from Fort Lee to a point almost opposite Dobbs Ferry, a distance of 13 miles. They rise to a height of 550 feet and possess a stateliness and rugged beauty that have made them a prominent scenic feature of the river.

Yonkers Yonkers, on the east bank of the Hudson, fifteen miles from Grand Central Terminal, is delightfully situated on terraces rising from the river. Its name is said to have come from the words "Jonk Herr's (the 'Young Lord's'), referring to Adraen van der Donck, who became, in 1652, lord of the



Bear Hill and Ruins Ft. Montgomery

manor, the site of the present city. The building which is now used as the city hall was formerly the Philipse Manor House, built in 1682, where once lived the beautiful Mary Philipse, who, it is said, was Washington's first love.

A few miles further on we reach Dobbs Ferry, which was an important place during the Revolution by reason of its being a good point at which to cross the Hudson; and both American and British forces occupied it at **Dobbs** different times. The Washington-Rocham- **Ferry** beau Monument, erected in 1894, stands directly in front of the Livingston Manor House where Washington had his headquarters and



Sugar Loaf Mountain

commemorates events of intense interest which occurred during the Revolution. It was there, as the inscription sets forth that, on July 6, 1781, the French allies under Rochambeau joined the American army; there, also, Washington planned the Yorktown campaign, and, when hostilities had ceased and the red cloud of war had rolled away, Washington and Sir Guy Carleton met on this historic spot on May 8, 1783 and arranged for the evacuation of American soil by the British troops.

The train is now speeding along the shore of Tappan Zee, the majestic widening of the Hudson, named from the Tappan Indians who



The West Shore, South of West Point

lived on its western shore. It is famous in legend as the haunt of ghostly craft, and it is said that Rambout Van Dam, that reckless Dutch blade, rows ever through the long nights on his unending journey across the Tappan Zee. Over these waters, so the story runs, phantom ships sail on moonlight nights, wafted by phantom breezes, felt by no craft manned by mortals.

Just before Tarrytown is reached, the train passes "Sunnyside," which was the home of Washington Irving. It is a picturesque cottage shaded by great trees.

Sunnyside

The ivy growing over it was started from a slip brought from historic Melrose Abbey, England.



U. S. Military Academy, West Point

Tarrytown is delightfully situated overlooking the broad expanse of the Tappan Zee and is well known for its ancient landmarks and beautiful villas. A little north of the village, on the old Post-Road, John Paulding and his companions, David Williams and Isaac Van Wart, in September, 1780, captured Major Andre, who was on his way back to New York with the maps and plans of West Point furnished him by Major Arnold. A monument commemorating this important event marks the spot.

Just beyond is "Sleepy Hollow," made famous by Irving's magic pen, and in this neighborhood



A Battery at West Point

is the ancient Philipse Manor House, built in 1683, and the Old Dutch Church, described by Irving, dating back to 1699 and said to be the oldest on the Hudson.

To the north of the Old Dutch Church is "Battle Hill." Upon its summit are the remains of fortifications, and within the redoubt is a monument erected to the memory of the American soldiers from the vicinity who fell in the Revolution. Between this monument and the Old Dutch Church is the grave of Washington Irving.

Across the Tappan Zee, and almost directly opposite Tarrytown, the village of Nyack is seen.



Looking North from Grounds of U. S. Military Academy, West Point

After passing Ossining and Sing Sing Prison, there is seen to the left Teller's Point projecting into the water.

Ossining Near this spot on September 22, 1780, the British Man-of-War, "Vulture," was at anchor awaiting the return of Andre from his conference with Arnold on the other side of the River, which here widens into Haverstraw Bay. A party of Americans, seeing the "Vulture" lying within range, brought down a cannon from Verplanck's Point and used it so well that the vessel was compelled to drop down stream. This prevented Andre from returning on board and he crossed at King's



Ferry to Verplanck's Point and made the attempt to reach New York by land, which resulted in his capture.

Across the bay, near the west shore, is the village of Haverstraw.

A mile or so north of Haverstraw is Stony Point, the scene of "Mad Anthony," Wayne's successful storming of an almost impregnable position, on the night of July 15, 1779. This was one of the most brilliant exploits of the Revolution.

Verplanck's Point projects from the east shore nearly opposite Stony Point. It was on ground nearby that Baron Steuben so effectively drilled



Bird's Eye View of West Point

the soldiers of the American Army in 1778. A fort on this point called Fort Fayette was captured in June, 1778, by a British force under Sir Henry Clinton.

After passing Verplanck's Point, Peekskill, a flourishing town with an interesting history is soon reached. Here in March, 1777, the British landed and attacked a small American **Peekskill** force, under General MacDougall, which was compelled to retreat. A mile and a half north of Peekskill Station on a high bluff overlooking the river, is the State Military Camp, occupied each summer by the National Guard of the State.



Looking South from Breakneck Mountain

Opposite Peekskill is Kidd's Point, at the foot of Dunderberg Mountain. Near the point, so the legend goes, lies Captain Kidd's treasure, but so far no one has been able to prove it.

The train now enters the Highlands of the Hudson, the most beautiful section of this beautiful river, with old Dunderberg Mountain standing like a grim sentinel guarding the southern gateway. The view from the train as it follows the course of the river among picturesque heights and rocky promontories is one that always delights.

The Highlands

On the west shore, nearly opposite Anthony's Nose, a promontory, which rises boldly from



Point Henry Light, Near West Point

the east bank, a short distance from Peekskill, are the sites of Forts Montgomery and Clinton.

They were captured in 1777 by a British force under Sir Henry Clinton, and the chain which the Americans had stretched across the river to prevent the passage of the British ships was destroyed. Just below is seen Iona Island with its United States Arsenal.

Garrison, on the east bank, is connected with West Point, across the river, by ferry.

In the midst of the most romantic part of the Highlands is West Point, occupying an elevated site on the west side of the river opposite Garrison. During the Revolution it was a



Constitution Island, Looking South

fortified position of great strength, and the ancient ramparts of Fort Putnam and other fortifications and redoubts still crown the heights. There are no finer views of the river than those from **West Point** West Point; and its historic associations and the fact that the United States Military Academy is located there, make it a place of peculiar interest to the traveler.

Just above West Point lies Constitution Island, which took its name from Fort Constitution, built there during the Revolution and destroyed in 1777 by the British.



The 20th Century in the Highlands

Across the river from Cold Spring, Cro' Nest Mountain is seen; and then, passing **Storm King** between Mount Taurus and the river, Breakneck Mountain, on the east shore, comes into view with grand old Storm King opposite, twin keepers of the Northern Gateway of the Highlands. It is at Storm King that the tunnel of the new Catskill Aqueduct supplying water for New York City, passes under the Hudson River at a depth of about 1100 feet.

Four miles further north is the city of Newburgh, rising in terraces from the west bank of the river. It was settled in 1709. Wash-



Cro' Nest and Constitution Island

ington went to Newburgh in April, 1782, and made his headquarters for more than a year at the old Hasbrouck House **Newburgh** built by Jonathan Hasbrouck in 1750. It was at Newburgh that the American Army was formally disbanded in 1783.

Fishkill Landing through which the train passes is on the east side of the river directly opposite Newburgh.

About a mile back from this place is the old town of Matteawan, and some six miles inland, Fishkill Village, where there were many interesting happenings during the Revolution. In the village are still standing famous old



Cro' Nest, Storm King in Distance

churches which were used for legislature sittings after the Americans had been driven from New York. James Fennimore Cooper made Fishkill Village the scene of many of the incidents in his novel, "The Spy," a story of the time of the Revolution.

Lying back of Fishkill Landing is Mount Beacon, which is one of a number of hills in this vicinity used as signal stations by the Americans during the Revolutionary War. Its summit is reached by an incline railway at the terminus of which is located a Casino. It is very popular as a day resort, the views of the Hudson River and sur-



Shore Line, Constitution Island

rounding country being of surpassing beauty.

Fifteen miles further up the river is Poughkeepsie. It was settled by the Dutch at the close of the seventeenth century. In 1778, the Legislature of the State of New

York met in Poughkeepsie to accept the articles of confederation adopted by delegates from the thirteen states, and in the same year the state convention assembled and ratified the Federal Constitution. Poughkeepsie is the home of a number of educational institutions, the most important being Vassar College, devoted to the higher education of women. Spanning the Hudson



Breakneck Mountain

River at Poughkeepsie is one of the longest cantilever bridges in the world.

Sixteen miles north of Poughkeepsie on the west side of the river is the city of Kingston, one of the oldest in the state. It was originally granted a charter in 1661, by Governor **Kingston** Stuyvesant, under the name of "Wiltwyck," which was afterwards changed to its present name. The town bore a conspicuous part in the Revolution. The old Senate House, built in Kingston by Wessel Ten Broeck in 1676, was the first home of the State Legislature, which met there in September 1777.



The Northern Gate of the Highlands

Tivoli is ten miles further up the river. Just north of the village is "Claremont," an early manor house of the Livingstons, after which Robert Fulton named his famous steamboat as a compliment to Robert R. Livingston, who was his friend and partner in the enterprise. The "Claremont" made her trial trip up the Hudson from New York to Albany in 1807.

Across the river the Catskill Mountains, which from Rhinecliff are seen in the distance, now come into plain view. The memory of the romantic tale which Washington Irving wove about this region gives an added interest to the beautiful scene.

**Catskill
Mountains**



Looking Past Cro' Nest and Storm King toward Newburgh Bay

Hudson is a flourishing city and of quaint interest from the fact that, although it is situated one hundred and fifteen miles from the mouth of the Hudson River, it successfully carried on a whaling trade in its early days. It was settled in 1784 by thrifty New Englanders from Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Providence, who came for the express purpose of establishing the business referred to.

At Rensselaer, the Hudson River is crossed on a bridge of the New York Central Lines to Albany. The Van Rensselaer House, its old Holland brick walls pierced with portholes, is



Storm King Mountain

one of the ancient landmarks. It was built about 1640 and is the oldest of the Patroon manor houses. Tradition says that while seated near a well within the grounds **Albany** belonging to this house, Dr. Schuckburg, of the British Army, wrote the words of "Yankee Doodle," in derision of the appearance of the colonial militia when they joined the British regulars at Albany on their way to fight the French in the French and Indian War of 1755-63.

Albany, the capital of the State of New York, is one of the oldest existing settlements in the original thirteen states. The Dutch established a trading post at this point in 1614 and in



Poughkeepsie Bridge

1624 eighteen Walloon families arrived there from Holland, and erected a small fort of logs and earth which they named Fort Orange. The village which grew up was called Beverwyck, then Williamstadt, and finally, when the British took possession in 1664, the name was changed to Albany in honor of the Duke of York and Albany, afterward James II. It was incorporated as a city in 1686, and became the capital of New York State in 1797. It was, in the early days, a great converging point of the old trails, and up to the time of the Revolution a large Indian trade was carried on, and the town was kept well fortified.



Old Senate House, Kingston

About six miles north of Albany and marking the head of steam navigation and of tide water on the Hudson is the city of Troy. The name of Troy was given to the settlement by the freeholders in 1789, prior to that time it having been known as Venderheyden, Rensselaerwyck and Ferryhook. It is the seat of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the oldest engineering school in America, and enjoying a national reputation.

THE UPPER HUDSON

From Troy north the Hudson takes on entirely different characteristics from the river the train has followed so closely all the way from New



Capitol at Albany

York. The river has its source among the lakes and streams of the Adirondacks and comes tumbling down over a course of many rapids and falls of great natural beauty. The character of this part of the river provides great water power and mills are numerous, several of the cities and towns owing their prosperity and growth to this advantage.

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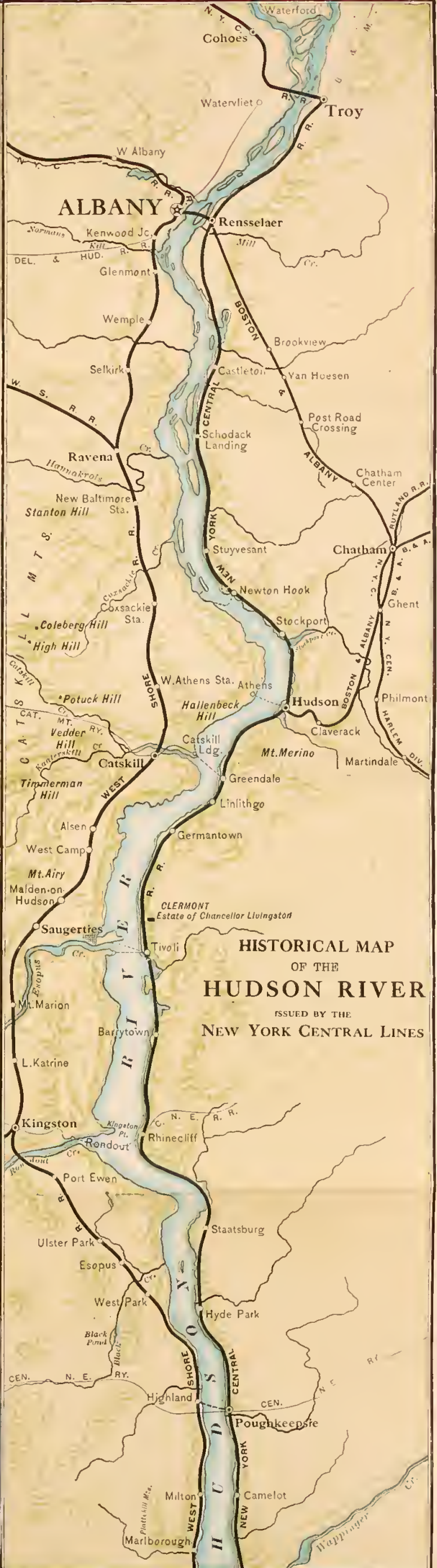
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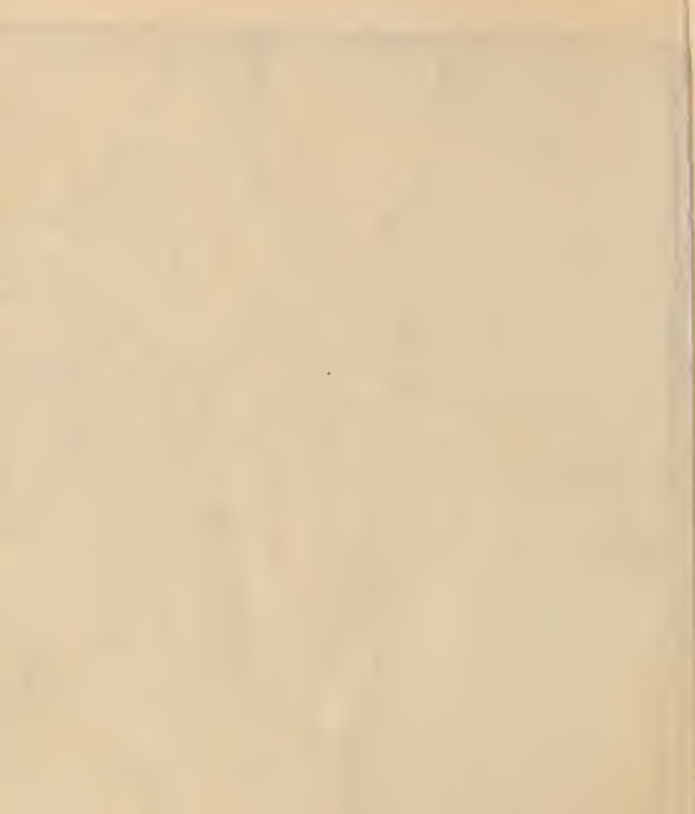
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**HISTORICAL MAP
OF THE
HUDSON RIVER**
ISSUED BY THE
NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES

NEW YORK TO MARLBOROUGH

MARLBOROUGH TO ALBANY, TROY & COHOES



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